

New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail Study

Public Informational Meetings:

- April 29, 2003** - Public Information Meeting, Windsor Town Hall, 275 Broad St.
April 30, 2003 - Public Information Meeting, Meriden City Hall, 142 East Main St.
May 6, 2003 - Public Information Meeting, Hartford Union Station, One Union Pl.
May 7, 2003 - Public Information Meeting, North Haven, Mildred Wakeley
Community Center, 7 Linsley St.
May 22, 2003 - Public Information Meeting, Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield St.

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Study Area

- 62 mile corridor
- Passing through 17 towns in 2 states
- 8 current Amtrak stops
 - New Haven
 - Wallingford
 - Meriden
 - Berlin
 - Hartford
 - Windsor
 - Windsor Locks
 - Springfield



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Project Purpose

- Evaluate ridership, impacts and costs of providing commuter rail service from New Haven to Hartford to Springfield
- Potential Users
 - Commuter Work Trips
 - Regional Travel with Connections to
 - Amtrak Intercity Service
 - Metro North Commuter Rail to NYC
 - Shore Line East Commuter Rail
 - Off-peak Travelers including Events and Recreation
 - Bradley International Airport Access

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

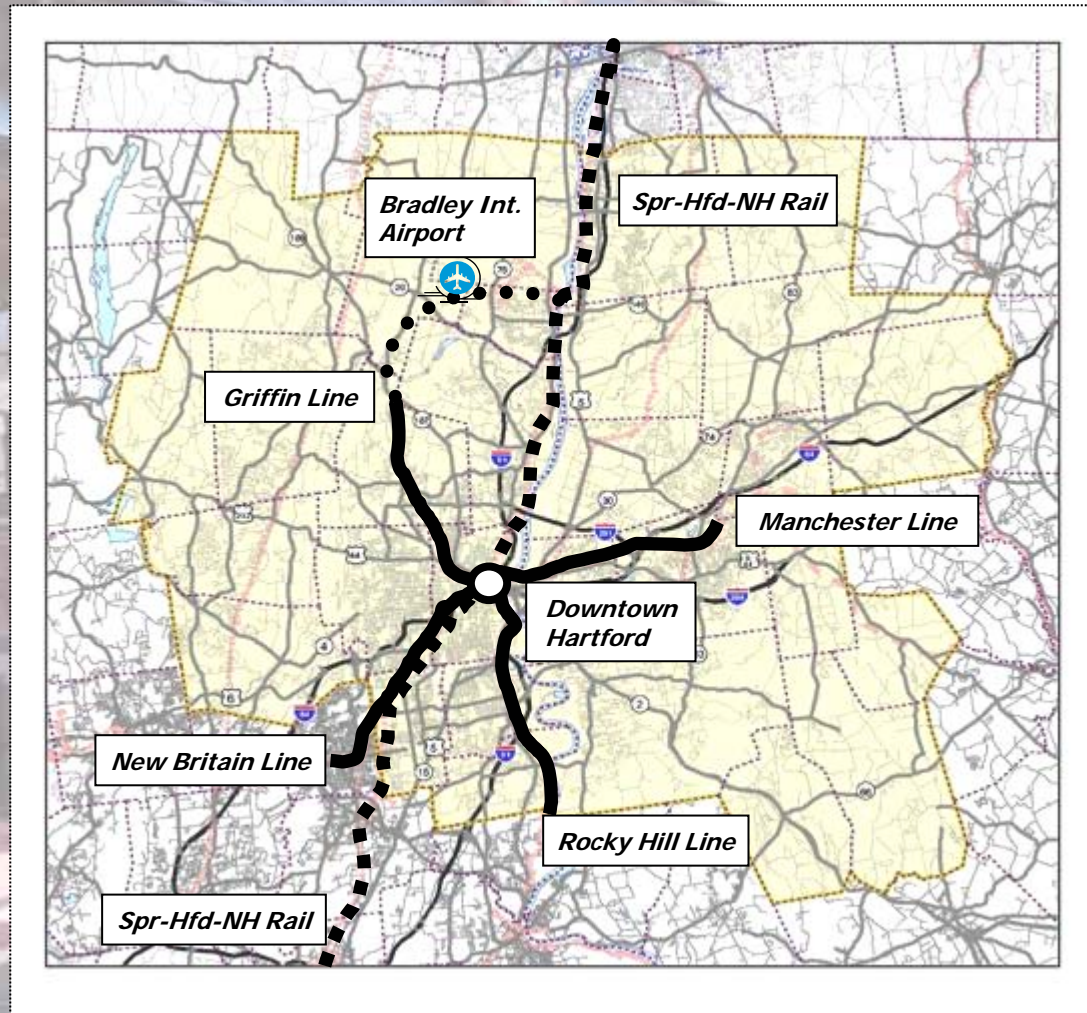
Project Background

- Regional Transit Strategy
 - CRCOG completed March 2001
- Transportation Strategy Board
 - Recommended further study of corridor
- Previous ConnDOT Studies of Corridor
 - Hartford to Enfield, 1992
 - New Haven to Hartford, 1994
 - New Haven to Springfield, 2000
 - New Haven to Hartford, 2001

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Regional Transit Strategy



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Project Schedule

Agency and Public Outreach	Ongoing
Data Collection and Evaluation Criteria	Completed Fall 2002
Existing Conditions	Completed Winter 2003
Minimum Build Alternative	Completed Winter 2003
Maximum Build Alternative	Spring 2003
Intermediate Alternatives	Spring 2003
Operating and Capital Plan	Summer 2003
Environmental Impacts	Summer 2003
Final Report	Fall 2003

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Existing Facility

- Amtrak owns the rail line
 - Starting April 28, 16 passenger trains per weekday (8 each way)
 - Vermonter – Washington, DC to St. Albans, VT (2 trains – 1 each way per weekday)
 - Northeast Direct – New Haven to Springfield – some through and some with timed connections to New York and Boston (14 trains – 7 each way per weekday)
- Travel time New Haven to Springfield
 - 1 hour 25 minutes on Amtrak with 8 stops
- Freight operators
 - Connecticut Southern / CSX
 - Guilford Rail
 - Providence & Worcester (New Haven)

Existing Facility

- Double track 23.7 miles
 - Through New Haven into North Haven (7.2 mi)
 - Most of Meriden (3.5 mi)
 - Small segment in Newington (2.3 mi)
 - Windsor to Windsor Locks stations (3.6 mi)
 - Enfield Station area into Springfield (7.1 mi)
- Single Track 38.2 miles
- 54 At-grade Crossings
- 80 mph speed
- Speed Restrictions
 - New Haven (35 mph)
 - Wallingford (35 mph)
 - Meriden (25 mph)
 - Hartford (20 mph)
 - Windsor Locks (50, 30 mph)
 - Springfield (20 mph)

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Project Evaluation Criteria

- New Starts Criteria
 - Mobility Improvements
 - Environmental Benefits
 - Operating Efficiencies
 - Cost Effectiveness
 - Transit-supportive Existing Land Use Policies and Future Patterns
- Performance Measures
 - Farebox Recovery Ratio
 - Revenue per Train Mile
 - Operating Cost per Train Mile

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Station Evaluation Criteria

- Station Spacing
- Proximity to Riders
- Bus Service Access
- Parking Availability
- Transit Oriented Development Potential
- Geometry and Site Conditions
- Major Roadway Access

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Alternatives

- Minimum Build with no new stations and limited service
- Maximum Build with many new stations and frequent service
- Various levels of frequency in between will be considered with appropriate station locations
- Preferred Alternative will be chosen and an operating and capital plan will be developed

Minimum Build Alternative

- Stations
- Service
- Ridership
- Capital Cost
- Operating Cost
- Revenue



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Minimum Build Alternative

- Nine Existing Stations
 - New Haven Union Station
 - New Haven State Street
 - Wallingford
 - Meriden
 - Berlin
 - Hartford Union Station
 - Windsor
 - Windsor Locks
 - Springfield Union Station
- 30-35 minute train frequency
- No additional tracks
- Minimal additional parking

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

New Haven Union Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



State Street Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Wallingford Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Meriden Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

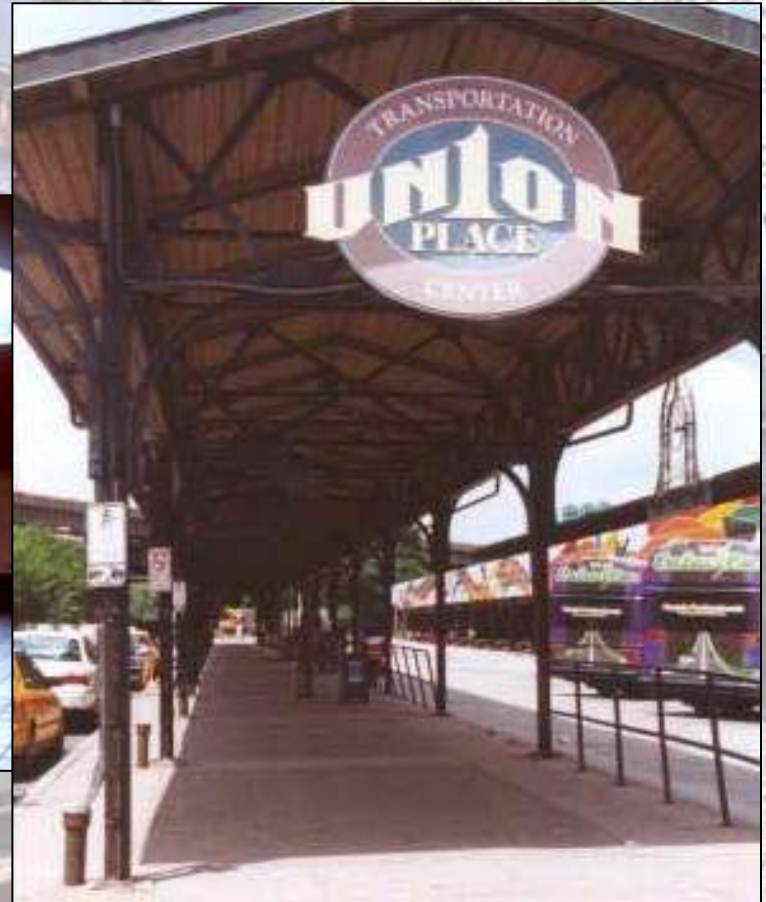


Berlin Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Hartford Union Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Windsor Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Windsor Locks Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Springfield Union Station



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Service

- Service Objectives
 - Springfield to Hartford and return
 - Hartford to New Haven and return
 - Springfield to New Haven with Metro North Connection and return
 - New Haven to Hartford and return
 - Hartford to Springfield and return
 - AM arrivals every 30 minutes from 7:00 am to 9:00 am and PM departures from 4:00 to 6:00 pm.
- Requires four sets of train equipment making 12 one-way trips
- Requires high degree of schedule adherence

Ridership and Revenue

- Estimated 3,000 daily riders
 - 760,000 annual ridership
- Largest commute patterns
 - Wallingford to New Haven
 - Hartford to Springfield
 - Windsor to Hartford
 - Berlin to Hartford
 - Wallingford to Metro North / SLE
 - Springfield to Hartford
 - Meriden to Hartford
 - Meriden to New Haven
 - Springfield to Windsor Locks
 - Meriden to Wallingford
 - New Haven to Wallingford
 - Windsor Locks to Hartford
- Similar Fare Structure to Shore Line East
- Estimated \$6,250 per day revenue
 - \$1.6 million annual revenues

Capital and Operating Cost

- Capital Costs = **\$43.7 million**
- Including
 - 5 locomotives
 - 9 coach cars and 5 cab cars
 - Maintenance facility
 - Expanded parking at four stations (510 spaces)
 - Wallingford, Meriden, Berlin and Windsor
- Operating Costs = **\$7.1 million per year**
- Operating Deficit = **\$5.5 million per year**
 - **22.4%** farebox recovery rate
 - Subsidy of **\$7.26** per passenger

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**



Amtrak Service

- Amtrak recently made changes to their service:
 - Monday, April 28 Amtrak added 2 trains in each direction
 - Amtrak fares have been dropped
 - Attempting to fill empty seats with commuters
- Differences from proposed service still exist:
 - Amtrak does not always stop at all stations, never stops at State Street in New Haven
 - Trains spaced throughout day, not in peak hour
 - No increases in parking at stations
 - Timing based on connections with Amtrak, not Metro North

Maximum Build Alternative

- Potential station locations
- Service

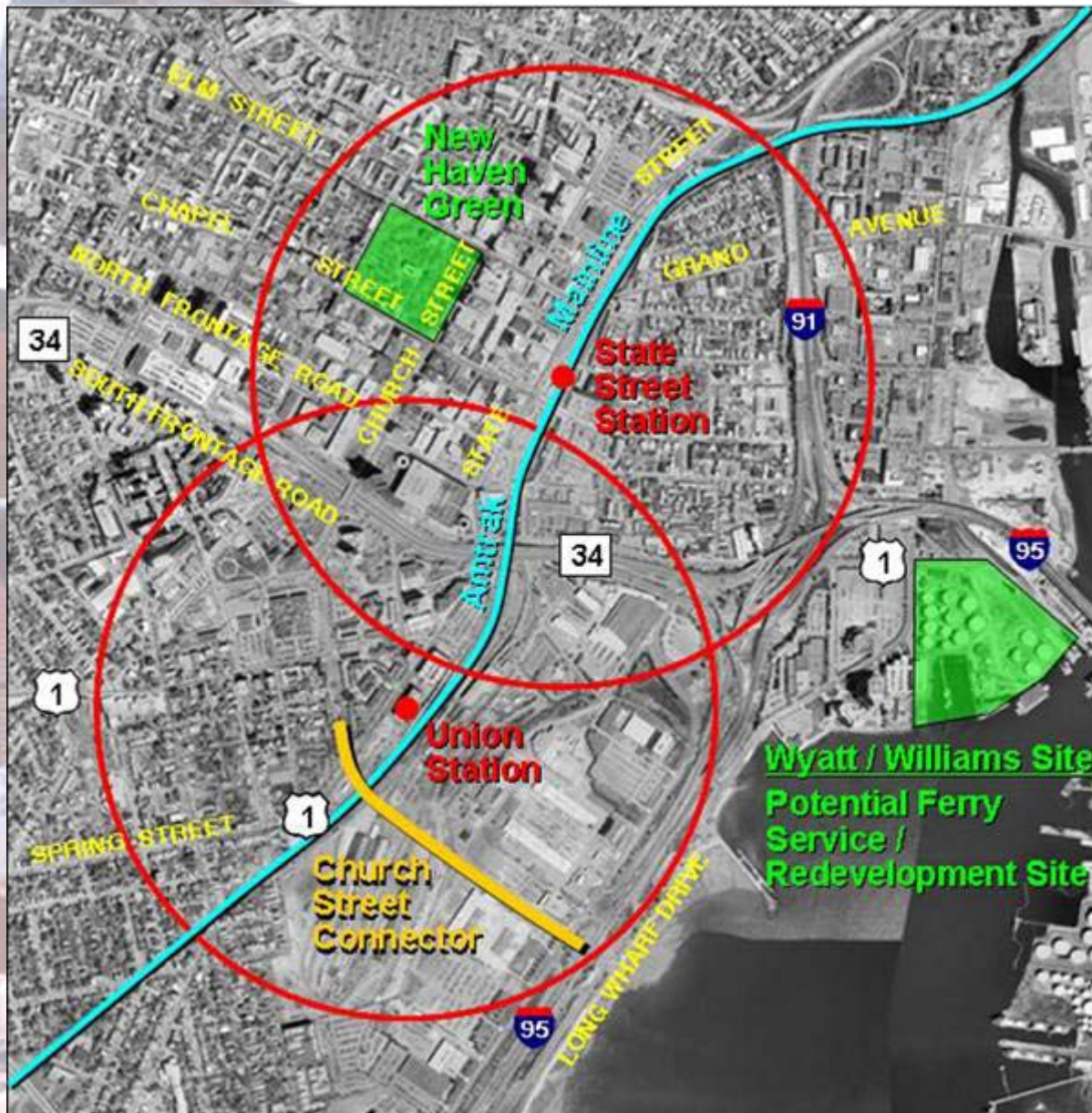


**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Maximum Build Alternative

- Existing Stations plus additional ones in:
 - North Haven / Hamden
 - Wharton Brook Station
 - Newington
 - North Meadows
 - Bradley International Airport
 - Enfield
 - South Springfield
- 15 minute train frequency in peak
- 60 minute train frequency from 5:00 am to 11:00 pm
- Improved Stations
 - High-level platforms
 - Pedestrian amenities with grade separated crossing
 - Enclosed heated station buildings with rest rooms
 - Bicycle storage and racks
 - Substantial additional parking according to ridership
- Double track entire line

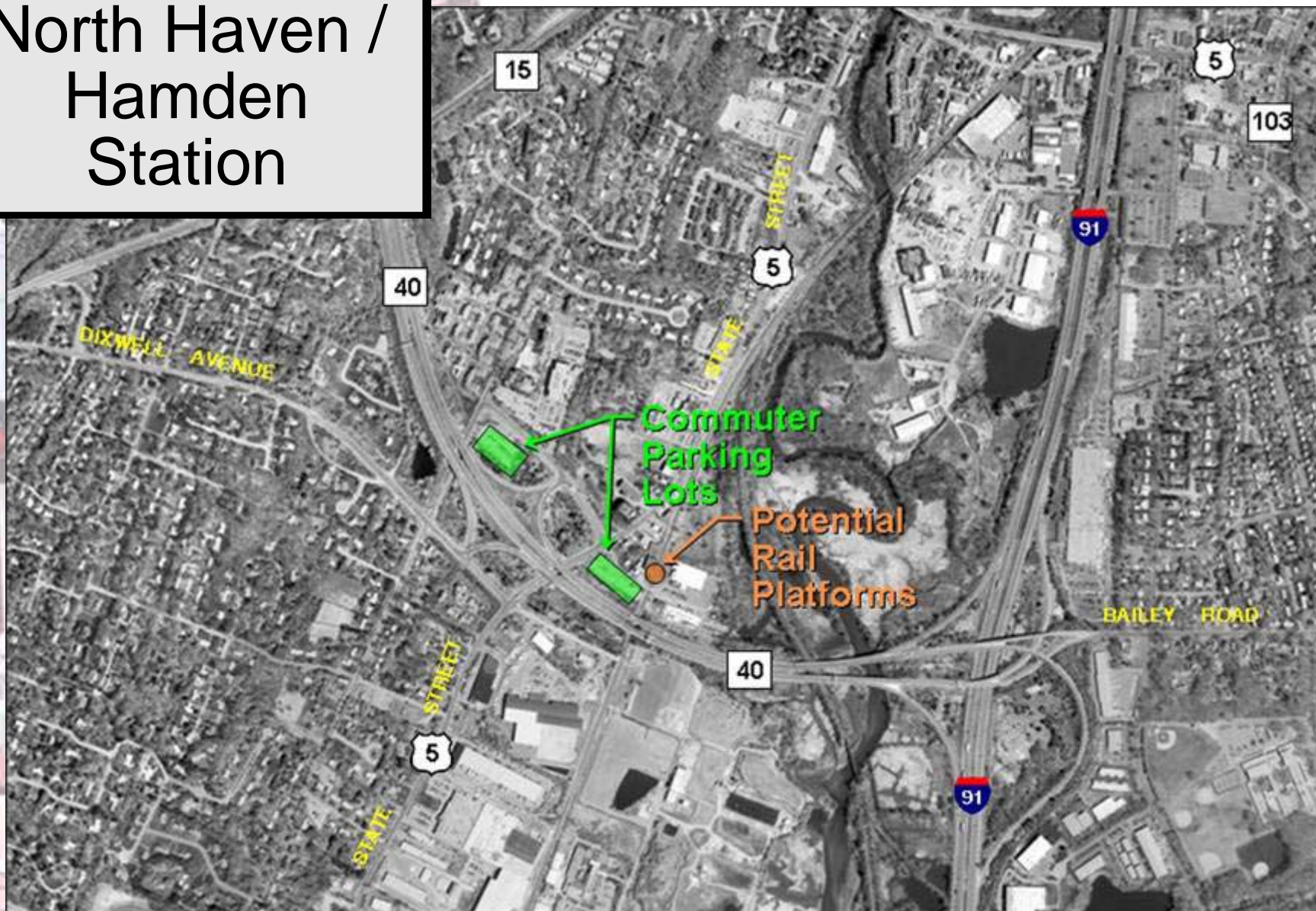
New Haven Stations



New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

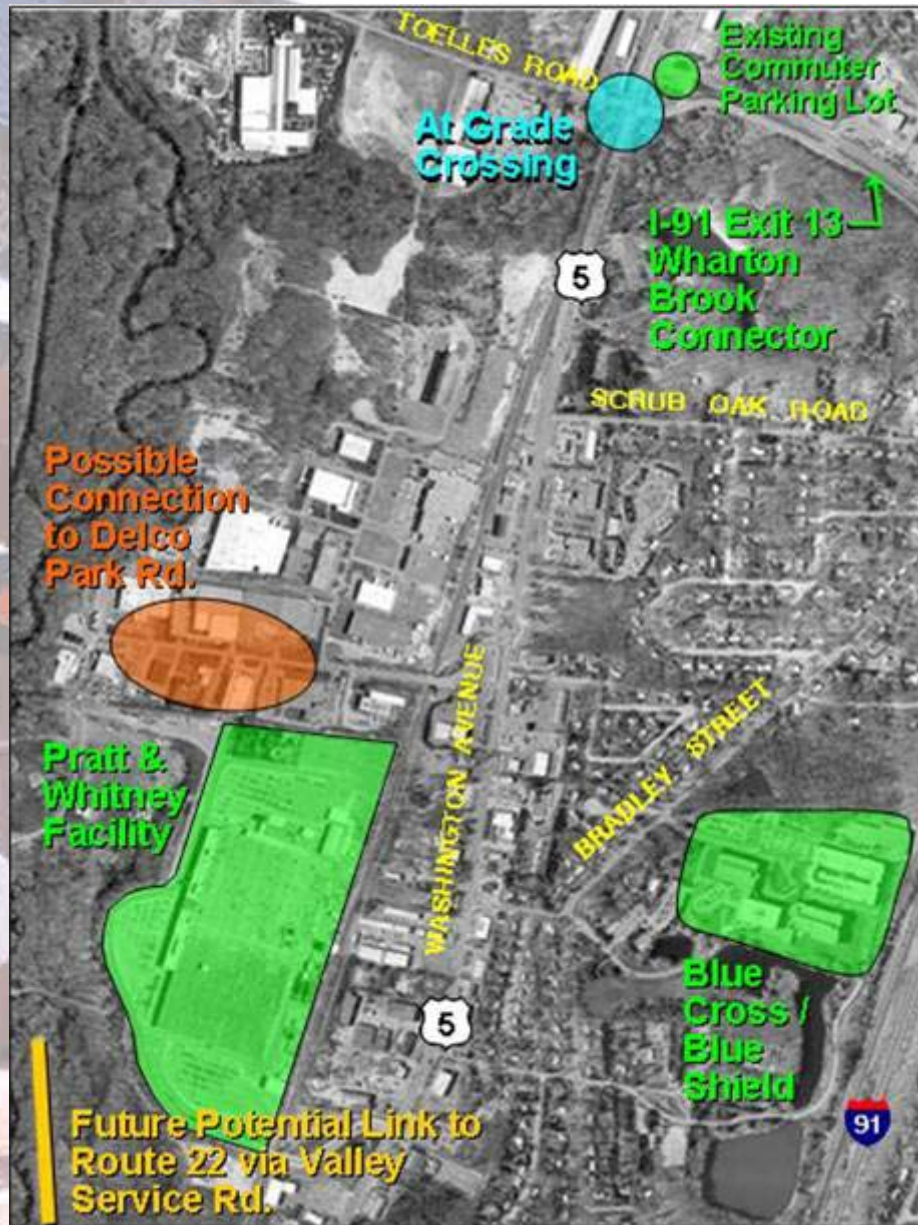


North Haven / Hamden Station



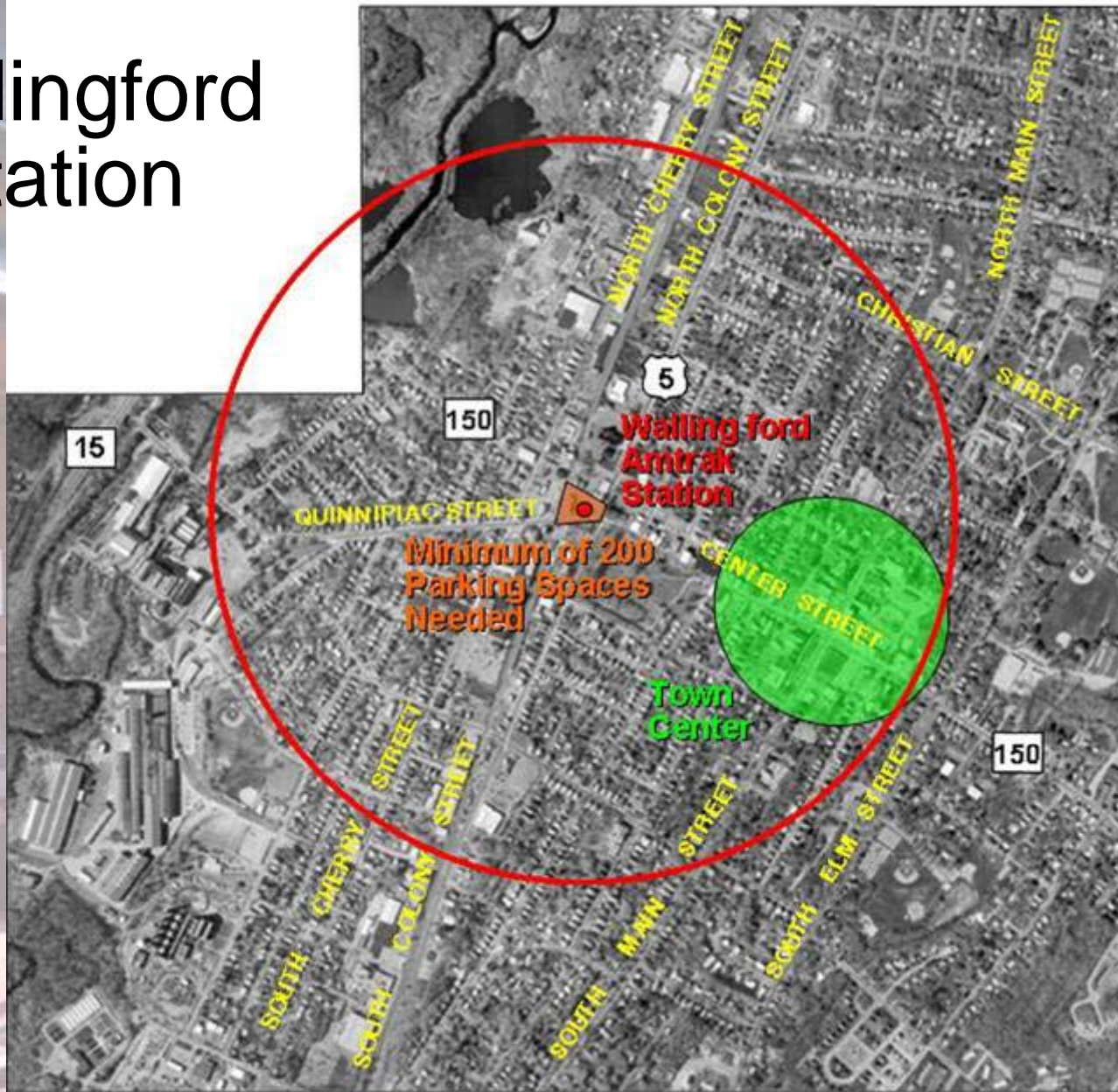
New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Wallingford / North Haven Station



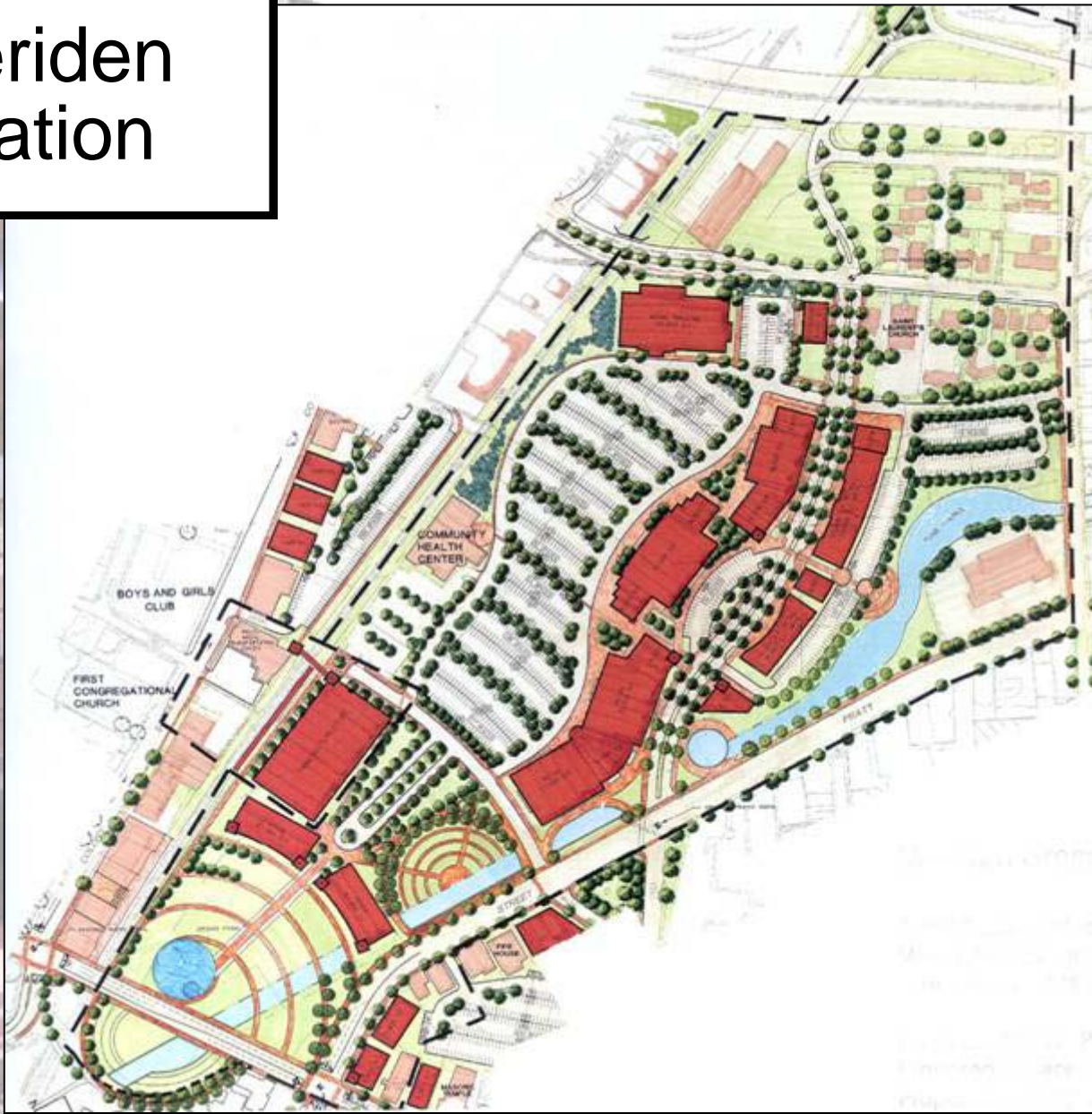
New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Wallingford Station



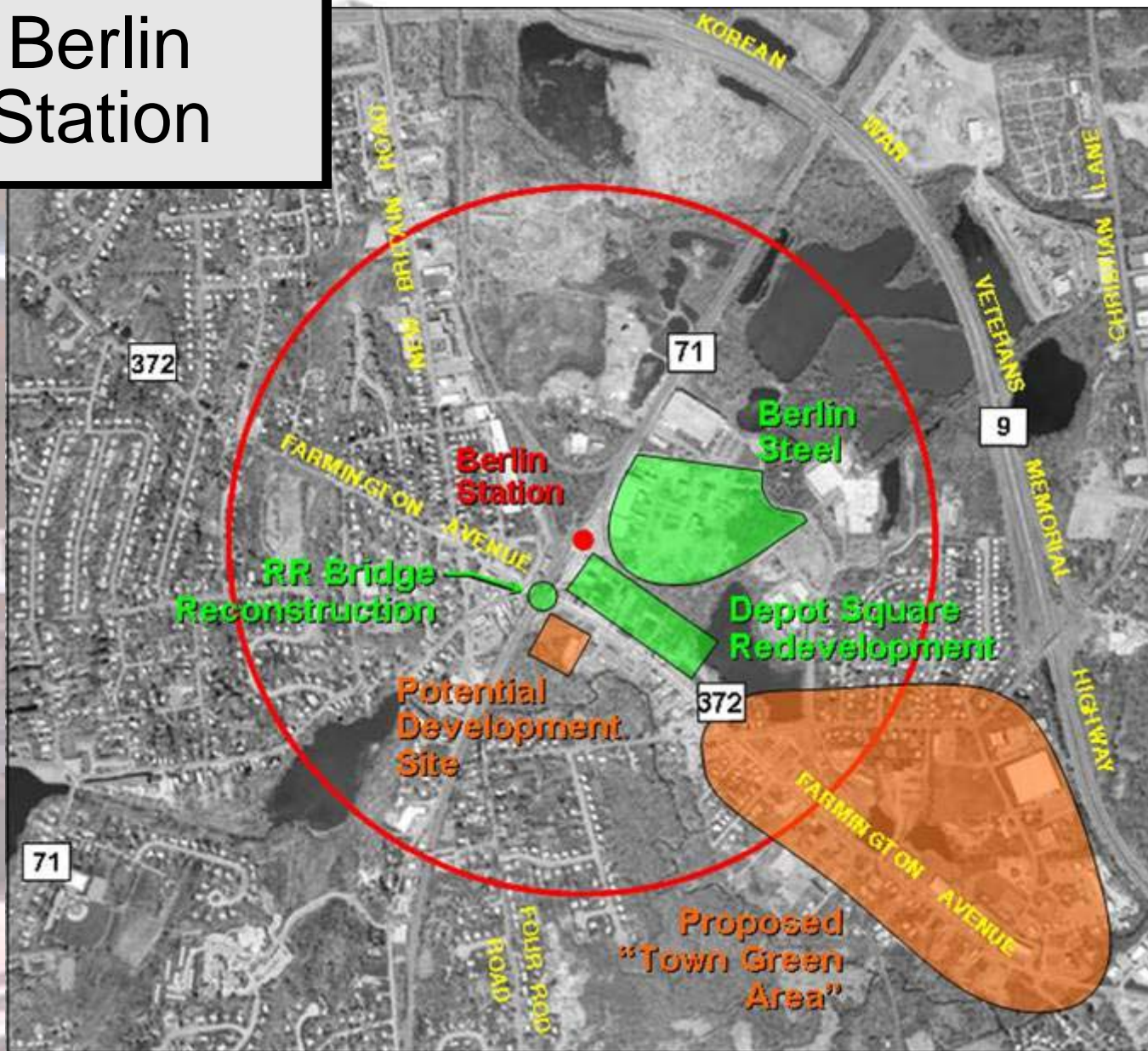
New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Meriden Station



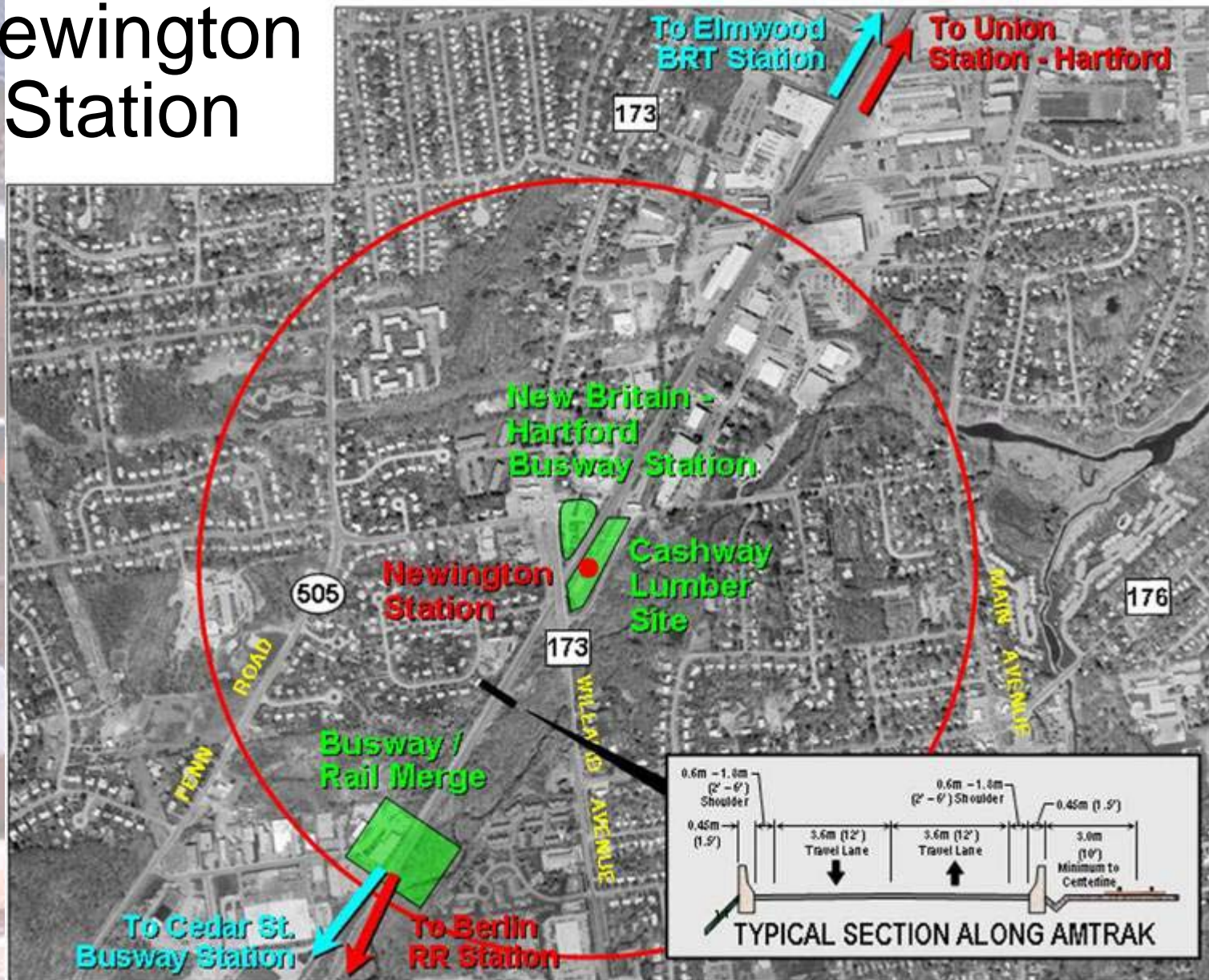
**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Berlin Station

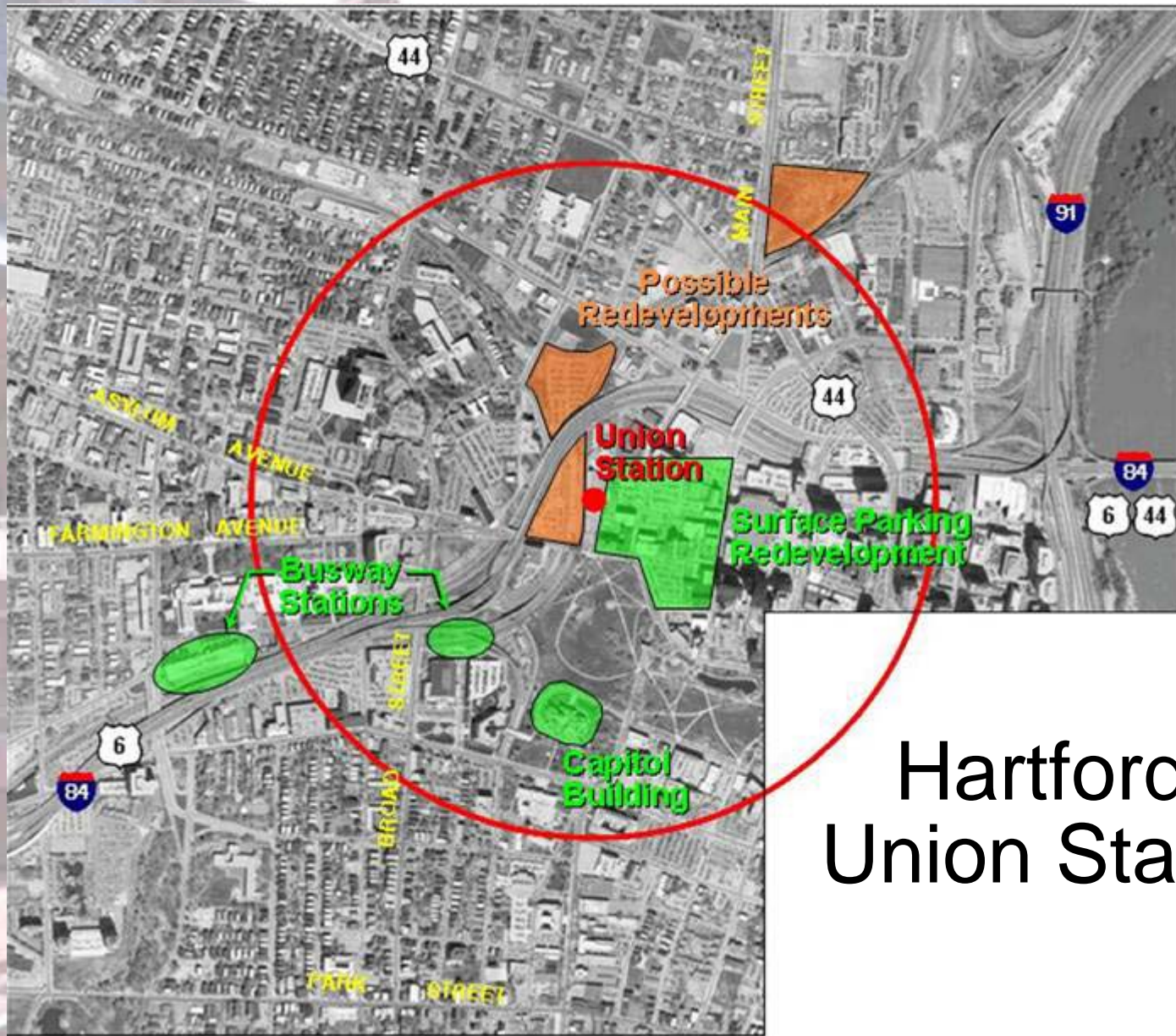


New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Newington Station



New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings



Hartford / Union Station

New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings



Meadows

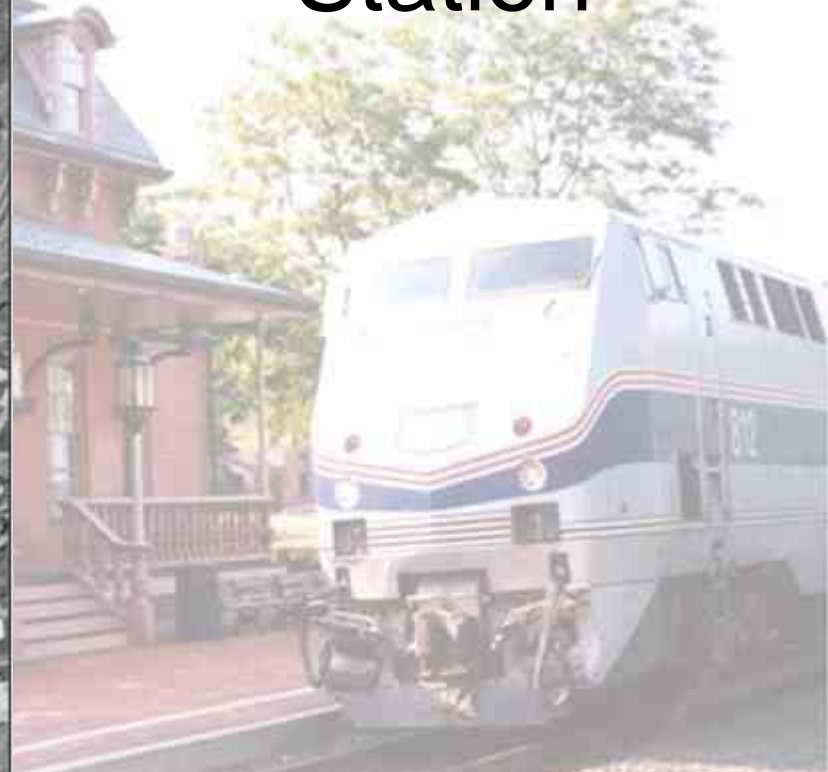
New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings



Windsor Station

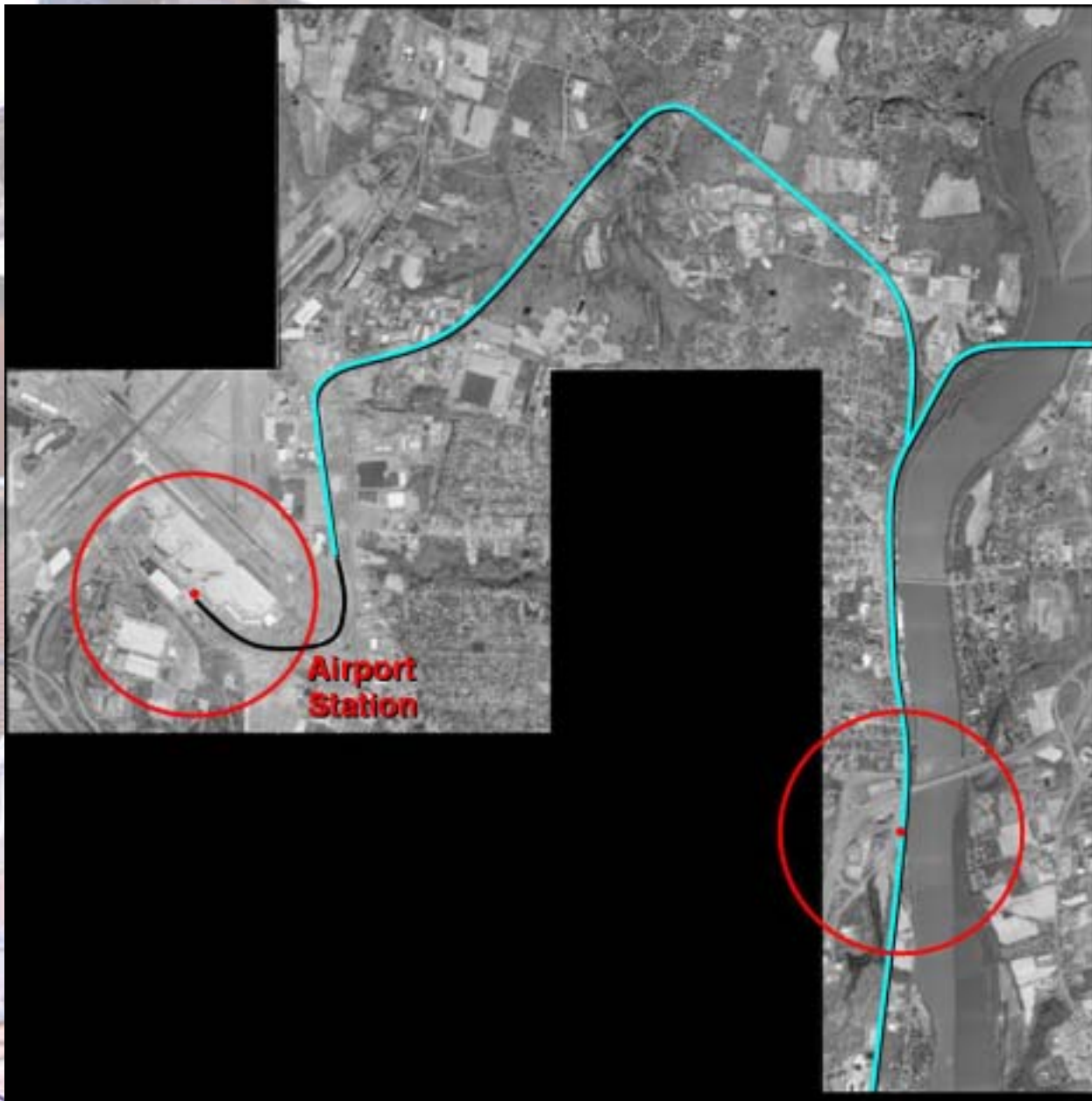
New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Windsor Locks Station



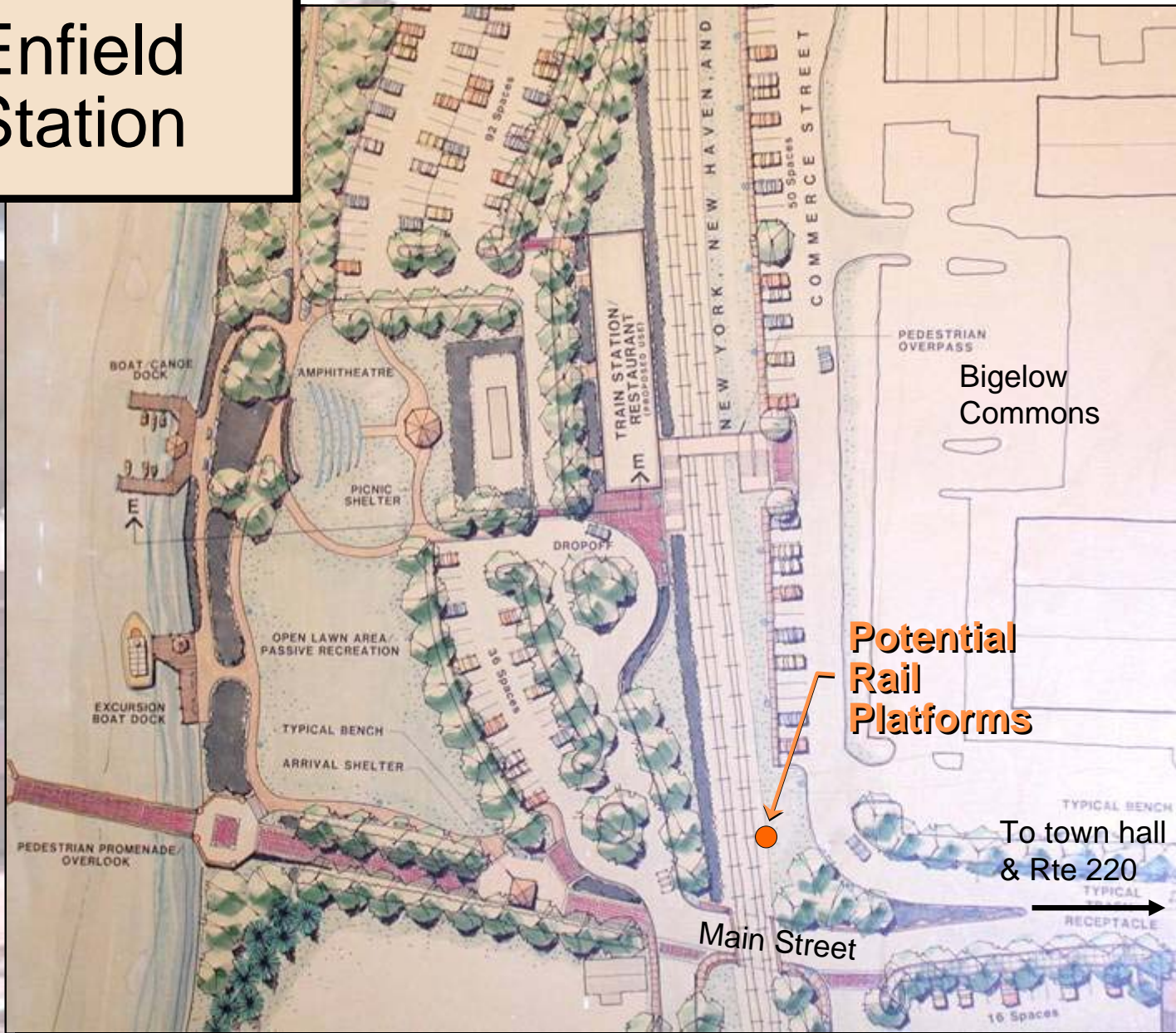
New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Suffield Industrial Spur



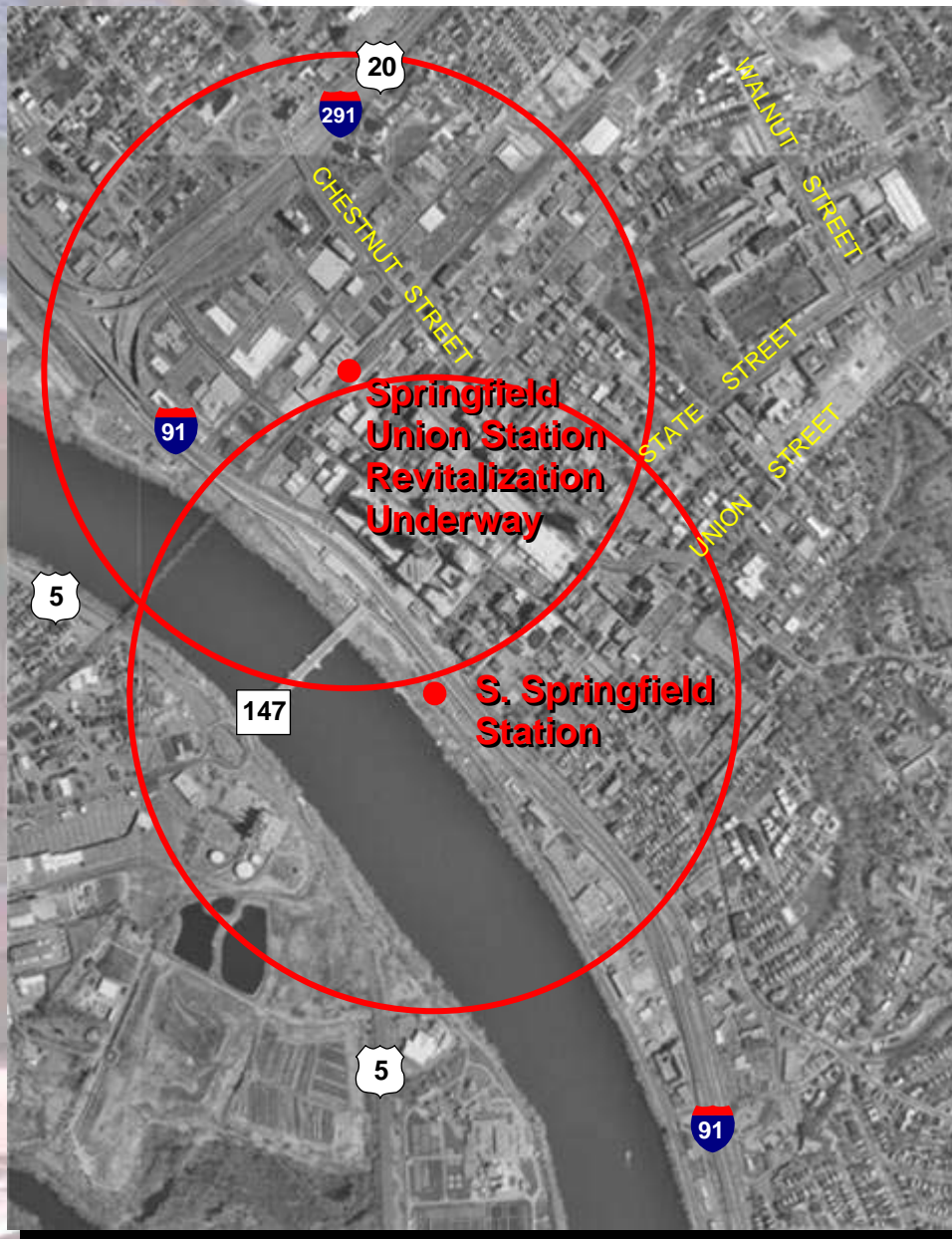
New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Enfield Station



New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Springfield Station



New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings

Public Involvement

- Public Meetings
 - First set in April and May
 - Second Set will be when we choose the final alternative sometime in late summer
- Newsletters
 - First one available in back
 - Two more to come
- Check out the Website
 - <http://www.nhhsrail.com>

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Opportunities to Comment

- Speak to us tonight
- Fill out a comment sheet tonight
- Call
 - Wilbur Smith Associates 1-800-786-2191 or (203) 865-2191
 - ConnDOT at (860) 594-2143
- E-mail us
 - nhhsrail@wilbursmith.com
- Go to the Website
 - <http://www.nhhsrail.com>

**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

Comments/Questions



**New Haven, Hartford, Springfield Commuter Rail
Public Meetings**

